



Martin McKinney <martinjmck@gmail.com>

Meeting re: Stories Connect and UChurch

Sarah Lyn Jones <sarahjones@go.mccormick.edu>
To: Martin J McKinney <martin@storiesconnect.org>
Cc: "Rev. Julian DeShazer" <julian@universitychurchchicago.org>, Vincè Cole <vince@universitychurchchicago.org>, [REDACTED]

Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 8:14 PM

Greetings Martin,

I want to start off this email by re-affirming my, and University Church's, appreciation and pride in Sanctuary Café. I am continually impressed by how the café promotes the social justice values that University Church holds dear, and invites so many people into conversation and community. It's been a blessing to us and to the Hyde Park community, and I hope will be so for a long time.

This being said, University Church leadership has learned of several allegations that have been levied against the café and Stories Connect, including organizational mismanagement, employee mistreatment, and sexual misconduct. University Church takes these allegations seriously, and the leadership has been discerning how to move forward both as a congregation and as a landlord (for lack of a better term), charged with the faithful stewardship of a building and the community that uses it. Our investment in the vision of Sanctuary Café and our commitment to the ideals of grace and reconciliation have guided this process.

I am writing tonight in my capacity as Board Moderator to request a meeting with you as Executive Director of Stories Connect and manager of Sanctuary Café to discuss these allegations and next steps for a continued partnership between SC and UChurch. Julian, as head of staff, Vince, as minister of properties, and Almarie, as a font of institutional wisdom, would also be in attendance. We would very much appreciate the opportunity to hear from you and work with you in addressing these issues and moving forward into what we all hope is a bright future for both University Church and Stories Connect/ Sanctuary Café.

I would like to schedule this meeting within the next week. My evenings this week are free except for Friday and Saturday (Feb. 7 and 8), and through Tuesday of next week (Feb. 12). I am also available after 2pm this Sunday. Please let me know what would work best for your schedule, and if we need to find another time.

All peace and love,

Sarah Jones